

8.15.g *Serra Mesa Library (N 7)*

Site Description and Existing Conditions

The Serra Mesa Library (N 7) site is located directly south of Montgomery Field Airport across Aero Drive. Twenty-five vernal pools (1470 m² [0.363 acres]) on 9.2 acres were mapped in the *Vernal Pool Inventory* (City of San Diego, 2004). These basins occur within the MHPA and were conserved as a condition of the Serra Mesa Library project (PTS 4813); the site owned by the City and managed by the Park and Recreation and Library Departments. The area is zoned Active Parks, and is bounded by a major road, residential development, and commercial and library facilities.

The vernal pools at Serra Mesa Library are of natural origin, and occur within Redding gravelly loam soils. Upland vegetation is primarily disturbed coastal sage scrub and ruderal. No sensitive vernal pool species were observed at Serra Mesa Library.

Prior to construction of the library, the site was occasionally disturbed by foot traffic and vehicle storage. The vernal pools and their watersheds have been conserved and fenced as part of the approved project.

Threats

Development

The Serra Mesa Library was constructed on this site (PTS 4813); the vernal pool basins and watersheds were conserved as a condition of the project.

Invasive Species

Chrysanthemum spp. and other non-native species occur in disturbed and ruderal portions of the Serra Mesa Library site.

Edge Effects/Trespass

The Serra Mesa Library vernal pools are bounded on all sides by development. Litter and unauthorized access are likely to occur. To minimize these impacts, fencing and regular trash removal were required as conditions of project approval for the Serra Mesa Library (PTS 4813).

Fire and Fire Suppression

Given the developed surroundings, it is unlikely that wildfire or fire suppression activities pose a threat to the Serra Mesa Library vernal pools.

Required Management Activities

The current management activities discussed in this section were conditions of project approval for the Serra Mesa Library project (PTS 4813).

Prior to on-site grading, a permanent fence, made of non-combustible material (i.e. chain link) and six feet in height, shall be installed around the vernal pools. Signage will be installed identifying the sensitive nature of the habitat; the Library Department is responsible for keeping the fenced area free of trash and debris.

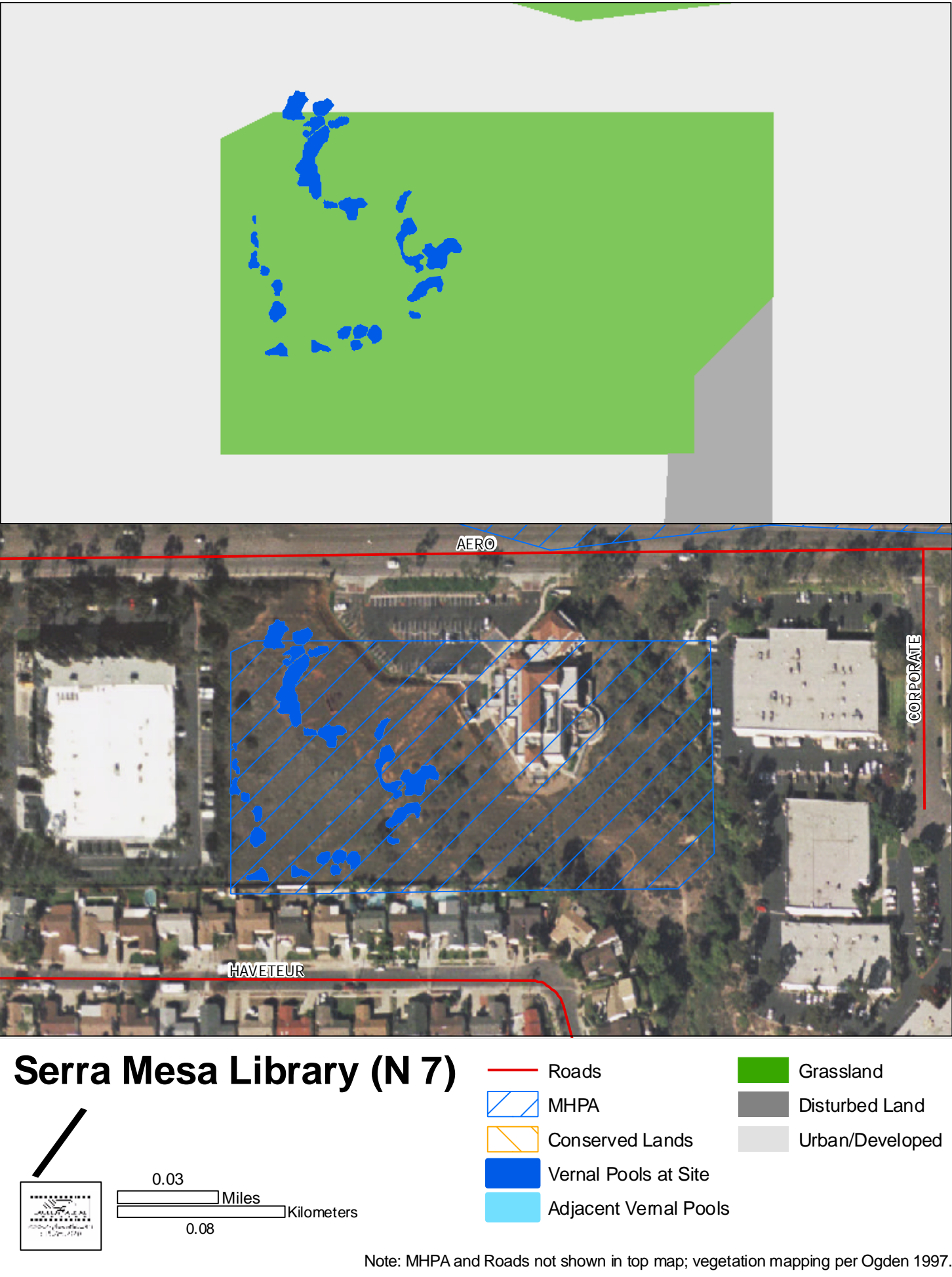
When maintenance to the brush management zone two is required, a biologist shall notify the City of San Diego's Environmental Review Manager of the maintenance and identify the biological monitor; the biologist shall be present to ensure that vernal

pool basins or watershed are not impacted. After the brush management maintenance is complete, the biologist shall submit a letter to the Environmental Review Manager to disclose any unanticipated impacts or recommend needed mitigation measures.

Management Recommendations

The Land Manager should encourage research studies, including projects to assess the impact of edge effects and isolation on vernal pool habitats and their associated species. This site may be an appropriate location for environmental education due to the nearby library.

Figure 31



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8.1.5.h *Teledyne Ryan (N 1-4 N 5-6)*

Site Description and Existing Conditions

Teledyne Ryan (N 1-4 N 5-6) is an 11.25-acre site located south of Tech Way between Kearny Villa Road and Overland Avenue in Kearny Mesa. The site is privately owned, outside the MHPA, and is zoned for industrial and business park uses. Surrounding land uses include transportation, industrial and business parks.

A total of .59 acres (2,388 m²) of vernal pool basin area was mapped in 1995 as part of a development proposal (*Teledyne Balboa Project* [Helix 1998]). The vernal pools at Teledyne Ryan are of natural origin and are underlain by Redding gravelly loam. Upland areas are dominated by coastal sage scrub and non-native grasslands. In 1995, *Pogogyne abramsii* and *Brodiaea orcuttii* were observed at the site; surveys for fairy shrimp were not conducted.

Although separated by developed areas, this site is geographically related to Montgomery Field (N 1-4, N 5-6) and Serra Mesa Library (N 7).

Threats

Development

This site is privately-owned, located outside of the MHPA, and may be impacted by development.

Invasive Species

Invasive species were documented in 1995, including high numbers of non-native grasses (Helix 1998).

Edge Effects

The Teledyne Ryan vernal pools are adjacent to business park/industrial development, and may be impacted by isolation, litter, unauthorized access, and trash.

Fire and Fire Suppression

It is unlikely that wildfire or fire suppression activities will impact an urban site such as Teledyne Ryan.

Required Management Activities

No management activities are required for this site.

Management Recommendations

Due to the presence of vernal pools, this site is recommended for conservation through public acquisition or private mitigation. However, development is not precluded; if development or conservation occurs, the following recommendations shall be implemented.

Restoration and/or enhancement of the vernal pools may be appropriate given the high species diversity of nearby vernal pool sites, such as Montgomery Field, and should be considered if conservation occurs.

Any on-site preserve areas shall be fenced to preclude unauthorized access. Appropriate signage shall be developed, with both educational and no-trespassing elements.

A qualified biologist shall assess the impact of invasive species, and shall recommend and implement a removal plan, if necessary. If the site is developed, non-native, invasive species shall not be utilized for landscaping purposes.

Annual maintenance shall be required to provide fence and sign repair and trash removal, as necessary. All conserved areas shall be rezoned to Open Space.

Figure 32



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